

What is claimed is:

[Claim 1] A surgical tool for capturing and removing intraocular foreign bodies, comprising:

an elongate base;
an elongate bore formed in said elongate base, said elongate bore having a leading end in open communication with a leading end of said elongate base;
a foreign body capturing means slideably received within said elongate bore;
said foreign body capturing means including an elongate handle, a rim, and a net;
a control member connected to said foreign body capturing means for controlling the instantaneous position of said foreign body capturing means;
said foreign body capturing means having a fully retracted position where said foreign body capturing means is substantially received within said elongate bore, a fully extended position where said foreign body capturing means is fully extended from said elongate bore, and an infinite number of functional positions of adjustment therebetween.

[Claim 2] The tool of claim 1, further comprising:

an elongate slot formed in said elongate base in parallel relation to said elongate bore;
said elongate slot having a length substantially equal to a length of said elongate bore;
said control member being slideably mounted to a top wall of said elongate base;
said control member having a fully retracted position, a fully extended position, and an infinite number of functional positions of adjustment therebetween;
a rigid rod interconnecting said control member and said handle of said foreign body capturing means;
said fully retracted position of said control member corresponding to said fully retracted position of said foreign body capturing means and said fully extended position of said control member corresponding to said fully extended position of said foreign body capturing means.

[Claim 3] The tool of claim 2, further comprising:

said elongate slot having a width less than a width of said elongate bore.

[Claim 4] The tool of claim 2, further comprising:

a truncate slot formed in a bottom wall of said elongate base in parallel relation to said elongate bore;
said truncate slot having a length less than said length of said elongate bore;
said truncate slot having a leading end in open communication with said leading end of said elongate base;
said net having an upper end mounted about a perimeter of said rim and said net having a main body, integral with said upper end, that depends from said upper end when said foreign body capturing means is in said fully retracted position, said fully

extended position, and said infinite number of functional positions of adjustment therebetween.

[Claim 5] The tool of claim 4, further comprising:

said handle being bifurcated at a leading end thereof to form a pair of branches;
said pair of branches including a first branch having a first arcuate curve formed therein and a second branch having a first arcuate curve formed therein;
said first branch first arcuate curve and said second branch first arcuate curve diverging from one another in a common plane when in repose;
said first branch having a second arcuate curve formed therein and said second branch having a second arcuate curve formed therein;
said respective second arcuate curves of said first and second branches converging toward one another when in repose so that said first and second branches cooperate to form said rim of said foreign body capturing means;
said rim having a substantially linear configuration when said rim is fully received within said elongate bore;
said rim having an elliptical configuration when fully extended from said elongate bore;
said first arcuate curve of said first branch and said first arcuate curve of said second branch cooperating to facilitate entry of said rim into said elongate bore when said foreign body capturing means is moved from its fully extended configuration to its fully retracted configuration.

[Claim 6] The tool of claim 1, further comprising:

said rim being formed of a metallic material.

[Claim 7] The tool of claim 1, further comprising:

said rim being formed of a polymeric material.

[Claim 8] The tool of claim 1, further comprising:

said net being formed of a fabric mesh.